
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

November 29, 2017



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HEARING — IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Budget Hearing. On November 28, 2017, Governor Kim Reynolds held a budget hearing for the Iowa Department of Education. Department Director Ryan Wise presented the budget request for FY 2019 as summarized in an earlier [Fiscal Update Article](#). During the presentation, the Director highlighted four areas of focus for the Department, including:

- Early Literacy Initiative (ELI): The number of students reaching benchmark literacy skills has increased by nearly 14,000 since the 2015-2016 school year. The Department is requesting a \$300,000 increase for the Iowa Reading Research Center in order to create a blueprint of best practices to continue to support the ELI.
- Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC): The State is now in the second year of full implementation of the TLC Program. Districts across the State are seeing an increase in teacher retention, and districts are meeting internally set goals.
- Future Ready Iowa (FRI): The Department is working with districts and community colleges to reduce the need for remediation and developmental education at the community college level. The Department is also working to support the implementation of the new Career and Technical Education (CTE) system.
- Computer Science (CS): The Department is requesting \$500,000 for the Computer Science Professional Development Fund, which was established by [SF 274](#) (FY 2017 Computer Science Act), as well as \$125,000 for Department administration, so that the Department can hire a computer science support staff member. The Department is also requesting \$500,000 for the Iowa Learning Online system so that new computer science courses can be created.

Other Department Requests. The Department is also requesting \$8.0 million for the implementation of the new statewide assessment, \$180,000 for the course management system used by community colleges, and \$100,000 to create a public relations campaign regarding teaching in Iowa.

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